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SCHOOL REPORT.

Report of Monroe City Public School for the month ending Jan. 27, 1899.

ROLL OF HONOR.

High School.—Rosa Smith, Lucille Bell, Grace Turner, Catherine Bodwell, Roy Melson, Ethel Roberts, Ellen Walker.

Grade 8.—Ruth Hawkins, Coe Bortorff, Pearl Bohrer.

Grade 7.—Eugene Bell, Lillie Bixler, Ruth Brown, Elizabeth Geotze, Jim Kent, Walter Meyer, Jessie Moss, Goldie Roberts.

Grade 5.—Lida Lane, Rebecca Megown, Nettie Gordon, John Balzer, Tandy Gentry.

Grade 4.—Elizabeth Boulware, Eugene Brown, J. D. Melson, John Jayne, Lelia Jayne, Harry Strenn, Mary Wadsworth, Lola Walker, Lillian McNutt.

Grade 3.—Elma Smith, Ada Shryack.

Grade 2.—Ellis Brown, Katie Bruce, Savilla Hawkins, Ray Handley, Nina Megown, Cleo Patton, Calisty Tooley.

Grade 1.—Lena Bess Asbury, Richard Asbury, Fannie Jayne, Myrtle Meyer, Irene Lossen, Lottie Montgomery, Stella Overly, Margaret Patton, Ruby Strenn, Mamie Westhoff, Carrie Wright, Eddie Thomas.

High School had the highest per cent of attendance, Grades 3 and 2 on lines, and Grades 7 and 5 had no tardies, truants nor corporal punishments during the month.

At a recent meeting the Board of Education decided to raise the requirements for promotion of pupils. Pupils will be required to make a general average of 85 per cent with no average below 75 per cent on any study. This will call for closer application on the part of those students who are not doing good work in school at present.

Respectfully,

R. S. NICHOLS, Supt.

Bible Institute at Palmyra.

Elder B. F. Hixon attended the Bethel Bible Institute held in Palmyra last Thursday and Friday and remained over to attend the Reunion and Historical meeting of the Palmyra Baptist church on Sunday. Of the eight living ex-pastors, two were present, Rev. B. F. Hixon, who served in 1868 and Rev. O. L. Brownson, who served in 1893. The church was organized in 1834 and has had twenty pastors. The only long pastorate was that of Rev. J. R. Green, (a former pastor of the church in this city) who served from 1851 to 1861. He also served the church in 1862 and again in 1869. The meeting was truly a love feast for the older members of the church and one that was enjoyed to its fullest extent by the younger ones.

After The Fire.

The fire Monday night destroyed our stock, but our books were saved and will be found at Boulware & Sullivan's Tailor shop. Allowing us either account or note will please call there and settle at once. We need our money and trust you will be prompt in settling.

Yours truly,

A. BOULWARE.

Whitecotton and Economy.

The member from Monroe saved the State \$1500 by getting through a resolution making the pay of committee clerks date from the organization of the committee instead of from the organization of the House. He believes the little leaks as well as the big ones should be shut off.

The above clipping occurred in the items furnished the Mercury from Jefferson City. The correspondent seems to have overlooked some very important news notes. We will add a few that the aforesaid correspondent seems to have forgotten.

The member from Monroe supported the "State Resolution" providing for the printing of 300 copies of every bill introduced, and thereby entailing an extra expense of from 10 to 20 thousand dollars upon the tax payers of the state, whom he so loves to defend.

The member from Monroe introduced a resolution in person giving to each member of the House, except chairman of committees, a clerk at a salary of \$2.00 per day for sixty days, and then moved to table his own resolution because he saw a storm coming and wanted to keep in the dry. This measure would have made it necessary that the state expend \$12,000 extra for the accommodation of the members and their families.

The member from Monroe introduced another resolution that has been commented upon a great deal by the "Globe Democrat" against what is called "double pay". The time expended by the House discussing this question, before it finally passed cost the state \$4,000. The amount Mr. Whitecotton ought to save the state was \$225.

Now, anyone has only to refer to the records to substantiate all of the above. And this is the kind of economy campaign the worthy gentleman has entered upon. What say you honest toilers of the farm to this kind of legislation. Is it what you want? It is an exemplification of the old proverb "Strain at a gnat and swallow a camel."

But a greater insult to the worn and rock ribbed democracy of the County of Monroe is the shameless conniving with republicans being done at Jefferson City by Mr. Whitecotton for the sole purpose of satisfying a personal grudge against the governor. Now, what do the people of this county care about this private grievance of Whitecotton. They have sent him there for other business. This Whitecotton-Stevens feud is a stench in the nostrils of all honest democrats and we do hope that in the interest of a long suffering public the representative of the people of Monroe County will apply the soft pedal to himself and let us have peace. His record already is bad enough without adding any more folly.

Card of Thanks.

We return our heartfelt thanks for the kindness shown to us by our friends of Monroe City and country in the death of our father.

BURDITT BROS. AND FAMILIES.

The Disastrous Fire.

At 11:05 Monday night the fire bell snatched the citizens of Monroe from the arms of morpheus and hurried them to the scene of the most disastrous conflagration the city has ever had.

The fire originated and was discovered by J. A. Hickman, on the second floor of the McCarty block, in a room which was occupied by the L. T. Bell Clothing House. The engine and fire ladders were soon on the ground ready, willing, but unable to fight the fire which was rapidly gaining headway, account of intense cold. They did all that mortal man could do. The vast volume of smoke drove them out of the hallways as fast as they would go into them, which was time and again. In a few moments the fire was in the roof and out of the windows, the water freezing in the hose and in the engine while everything was putting on a more terrible aspect and the courage in the hearts of all like the mercury in the bulb, kept falling, for the opinion of all was the finest block in the city and its contents were doomed to destruction. The flames rapidly ran through the hallways and down the stairway into the clothing house. They swept the entire upper floor in 30 minutes and were then licking up the A. Boulware dry goods house, one of the fairest in the State. The heavy plate glass windows were blown outward by the heat with great force, scorching buildings on the east side of Main St. J. B. Anderson's big dry goods house was the next to suffer. A portion of the stock of goods were removed but the men were again driven out. The room became so heated that the front windows were blown half way across the street. The Hannibal Fire Department had been appealed to by wire and was loaded on a car to make the run to the scene of destruction, but the light breeze changed to the north and the cry went up, saved, and Hannibal was wired not to come.

At the present writing (Wednesday) the losses and insurance is as follows: L. T. Bell clothing stock \$17,000, insurance \$12,000; A. Boulware stock \$26,000, insurance \$17,000; J. B. Anderson's stock is badly damaged; it was valued at \$16,000, with \$9,000 insurance. Ex State Senator J. C. Piersol's law office was on the second floor. He lost his library, and as his account books were out of the safe they were destroyed. No insurance, loss \$2,000. Hon. W. T. Ragland's law office was also on the second floor; lost library and everything except contents of safe, the loss being \$2,000, insurance \$500. McCarty building, loss \$12,000, insurance \$6,000. The insurance on the building occupied by J. B. Anderson will cover losses. J. A. Melson Loans, loss \$500. The poultry house, owned and occupied by Jasper Henderson was on fire 35 times but was saved. The following parties had to move but their losses are

very slight. The Postmaster moved everything out, and in again, and did not lose a piece of mail or a penny. The Johnson Loan Co. and D. R. Davenport moved everything in their offices at little loss. The millinery stock of Miss Evans was moved by friends (she being in in Illinois) and replaced. The effects of the Misses Nevens were taken out of the building while Dr. F. S. Turner and wife fairly scampered with his office fixtures, etc. The Hello Central was badly torn up in the hurried move, but was ready for duty by 3 p. m. Friends took charge of Miss Belle Johnson's Art Studio and fairly made negatives, pictures, etc. jingle. The minor losses will probably foot up \$500, including the Electric Light Co. The total loss is \$71,500 and insurance \$48,000 leaving a net loss of from \$22,000 to \$21,000.

FLOATSAM-JETSAM.

From The Fire.

Everyone thought the entire block would go.

It was funny to see the fire engine in the postoffice Tuesday morning. It was placed there to thaw out.

The switch board of the Hello Central was on a tare and staid out all night. It was seen leaning against the wall of the Monroe City Bank Tuesday morning.

At midnight Monday one half of the citizens of the town were at the big fire, and like the Dutchman, just close enough to be comfortable.

Oh my, but didn't the fire department work, until old Jack Frost got in his work and froze their pretty and serviceable pet engine up so tight it couldn't spew water.

Everyone was willing to work in the buildings but the banks of clouds wouldn't let 'em.

Fire Chief Wilson deserves praise for his work and level head.

Did you see them rolling the four heavy, hot safes out of the ruins next morning?

Conductor Plumb was scared out of his wits during the heat of the fire. He pulled his train through within fifty feet of it. One car in the train was loaded with powder.

R. A. Ewing, the hustling photographer, drew his camera on the ruins early in the morning. It was like taking a shot at a handsome corpse.

J. Porter Patton and his section of Uncle Sam's business took a run and got as far as the east wall of the Monroe City Bank, where they rested until morning.

Dan'l K. Yowell lost his wits or rather he got so badly rattled that he lost the combination of his safe and could not get his books out.

Johnson & Davenport moved out of their office in a hurry, but were back in their old quarters before breakfast.

Whoopie! But didn't Dr. F. S. Turner grab his pill bags and scurry across the street, almost under bare poles.

Who said there was no fire engine in Hannibal? The people

of Monroe City will always feel grateful to that burg for her hearty and prompt reply to their first cry of distress. Her department and engine were already to load when she was wired "danger past." Here is to Hannibal.

Night Watchman, Joe A. Hickman, deserves special mention because he has proven his title to the Lynx' eyed watchman by saving the business portion of the city from being destroyed by fire twice in 8 months. Here is to Joe and his advancement, because we think him worthy.

To Our Patrons.

Several hundred people owe the DEMOCRAT from \$1.00 to \$10.00 each on subscription. To each one of these debtors the amount they owe is small. They all mean a large sum of money to us. Are you one of those who owe us? If so please place yourself in our position and we are confident that it will make you feel like you should pay. We do not have the time to see all personally or write those we cannot see and hope you will call promptly and get yourself square on our books.

After February 1, 1899, accounts over \$2 will be turned over to The Newspaper Collection Agency, of Chicago. This is not done through fear that the accounts are not collectible otherwise, but from the simple fact that we have paid the Agency to take charge of it, and in the matter they represent us. They act for us as though we had hired a book-keeper to look after this branch of our business. It is not a "bad debt" agency but a legitimate company organized to assist newspaper men in attending to a branch of their affairs that is so often sadly neglected because the publisher has not the time to solicit the payment of accounts. Hoping you will receive this notice and the letters of our representatives in the kindly spirit in which they are sent, we are yours.

DEMOCRAT PRINTING CO.

Bob Ingersol.

Ever since Bob Ingersol was bounced out of politics he has spent a large portion of his time trying to convince the people that h—ll was a myth. He lectured at the opera house in Carlinville last week, and the manager, L. H. Pranke, is said to have played Bob a dirty prank by running off with the receipts, and now the Agnostic says: "I have always said there is no h—ll, but in this case I think there should be one." That is as bad as another one of his breaks; he admitted that there was a Heaven at his brother's grave, when he doubted his own proposition in saying "If there be a Heaven, I will meet him there."

Hon. W. T. Ragland and J. Art Melson will be found at the DEMOCRAT office until a suit of office rooms can be fitted up for them, south of the F. & M. Bank, which will be about two weeks.